

In the United States Court of Federal Claims
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS
No. 22-0823V

PATTI PAEZ,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: March 7, 2024

Kristina Kay Green, Schwartz Jambois, Chicago, IL, for Petitioner.

Jennifer A. Shah, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

On July 28, 2022, Patti Paez filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (“SIRVA”) as a result of an influenza (“flu”) vaccination administered to her left arm on October 8, 2019. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On March 7, 2024, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding Petitioner entitled to compensation. On March 7, 2024, Respondent filed a combined Rule 4(c) Report and Proffer on award of compensation (“Rule 4/Proffer”) indicating Petitioner should be awarded a total of \$59,251.75 consisting of \$57,500.00 for pain and suffering and \$1,751.75 for unreimbursed expenses. Rule 4/Proffer at 4. In the Rule 4/Proffer, Respondent represented that Petitioner agrees with the proffered award. *Id.* Based on

¹ Because this Decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action taken in this case, it must be made publicly accessible and will be posted on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, and/or at <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts/national/cofc>, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2018) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the Decision will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2018).

the record as a whole, I find that Petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Rule 4/Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the Rule 4/Proffer, I award Petitioner a lump sum payment of **\$59,251.75** (consisting of **\$57,500.00** for pain and suffering and **\$1,751.75** for unreimbursed expenses) in the form of a check payable to Petitioner. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under Section 15(a).

The Clerk of Court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran

Brian H. Corcoran
Chief Special Master

³ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.